free-standing and is temporary in nature in that it is easily removable or rearranged. The modular display system **10** includes in the illustrated figure five subsections **11** each comprising a flat display plate **11** and at least one vertical upright post **12**. It is to be noted that the display system obtainable with the present hingeless assembly **12** is not restricted to that shown in FIG. **1** of the drawings. A multitude of other shapes or configurations is possible. Such configurations include any angle between zero and ninety degrees between the any two adjoining display panels **11**. For example, a box cross section display may be obtained which is joined to a straight display panel assembly. Moreover, the height of the display panels **11** and hingeless assemblies **12** are completely variable in accordance with the design of a particular display arrangement. Thus, virtually any shape of a display arrangement **10** is achievable by the present invention.

The hingeless assembly **12** according to the present invention is shown in cross section in FIG. **2** of the drawings. For convenience, the extruded shape **12** may be considered to comprise two portions: a first portion which allows connection thereto of a flat display panel **13** and a second opposite portion which allows connection thereto of another hingeless assembly **12**. The display panel portion includes a number of spaced parallel flanges **14** with a space **15** therebetween. Each of the spaced parallel flange members **14** extend outward from a base plate **16**. Each of the parallel extending flange members **14** may be of differing lengths and thicknesses notwithstanding that FIG. **2** shows each of the members **14** of equal length and thickness. Similarly, the spaces **15** between flanges **14** may be of equal width or unequal width.

The hingeless assembly attachment portion of the inventive shape **12** in cross section includes a circular member **17** and a cup-like member **18** which members extend outwardly from base plate **16** and extend the length of the extrusion. Extending member **17** includes a substantially perpendicular extending portion **19** and angled portion **20** and a circular portion **21**. The included angle between portion **20** and base plate **16** may be approximately fifty-five degrees. The cup-like extending portion **18** consists of two partial circular extending portions **22** and **23** which are connected to base plate **16** by straight sections **24** and **25** respectively. The internal diameter of cup-like portion **18** is approximately equal to or slightly larger than the outside diameter of circular member **21**. However, it is to be observed that the outermost partial circular member **22** is of a greater length than the inner partial circular member **23**. The space between the ends of circularly extending members **22** and **23** is slightly less than the outside diameter of ball member **21**. In this manner, a respective circular member **21** of another adjoining member **12** may be snap-fitted within the cup-like portion **18** of the reference extruded shape member **12**. It is to be noted that the circular member portion **21** and the partial circular shaped portions **22** and **23** are each extended from base plate **16** by an approximately equal distance. This distance is necessary to provide clearance to fit thereunder the adjoining cup-like member **18** or the circular member **17**, or both, of the adjoining hingeless assembly **12**.

FIG. **3** depicts in cross section a typical configuration which is achievable by the present hingeless assembly **12**. Hingeless assemblies **12A** and **12B** are snap locked together to form two panel sections **11A** and **11B** extending in a straight line in a single plane. It is to be noted that each of the cup-like members **18** and the circular members **17** of hingeless assemblies **12A** and **12B** are snap locked to each other so as to form a rigid connection therebetween. Panel member **11C** is illustrated such that it may be positioned at any angle **30** between zero and ninety degrees between panel members **11B** and **11C**. In this regard, only the circular member **17C** is fitted within cup-like member **18D**. Since cup-like member **18D** is rotatable about circular member **17C**, or vice-versa, any angle **30** between zero and ninety degrees is obtainable between panel members **11B** and **11C**. By joining four panels **11** at ninety degrees to each other as per hingeless assemblies **12C** and **12D**, a box shaped display panel assembly may be achieved (not shown).

FIG. **4** shows another arrangement which may be obtained between three hingeless assemblies **12E**, **12H**, and **12I**, joined together in a triangular arrangement. In FIG. **4** it may be seen that one of the circular members, for example, **17H** is fitted within cup member **18T** while cup member **18H** is fitted around circular member **17E** and, circular member **17T** is fitted within cup member **18E**. In this manner, a self-standing, completely snapped together, display arrangement is achieved with each of the display panels extending from the center thereof outwardly with an angle of 120° therebetween.

It is to be emphasized that the inventive hingeless assembly **12** may be used to form a display arrangement unlike any of those shown in the figures herein. Accordingly, the present invention is intended to apply not only to the display panel configurations shown in the drawings, but any display panel configuration that is possible by joining two hingeless assemblies together between any angle from zero to ninety degrees therebetween.

While the invention has been described, disclosed, illustrated and shown in certain terms or certain embodiments or modifications which it has assumed in practice, the scope of the invention is not intended to be nor should it be deemed to be limited thereby and such other modifications or embodiments as may be suggested by the teachings herein are particularly reserved especially as they fall within the breadth and scope of the claims here appended.

I claim as my invention:

1. A hingeless connector assembly for joining one or more similar connector assemblies to form a hingeless post assembly for a modular display system, each connector assembly comprising an elongated member having

a first connecting means adapted for attachment thereto of a flat panel and

a second connecting means for interlockingly attaching up to four adjoining connector assemblies

a plate member between said first and second connecting means

said second connecting means comprising a cylindrical member having a substantially circular cross-sectional shape and a groove member having a cup-like cross-sectional shape extending outward from the plate of said connector assembly in a parallel manner with a space therebetween, said cylindrical member in cross section comprising

a first portion extending substantially perpendicularly from the plate member

a second straight portion connected to said first portion with an angle therebetween and